

[23 November, 2006] RAJYA SABHA

(b) and (c) The State Government of Goa has acquired 261203.00 sq. metres of land..

(d) and (e) As per the State Government of Goa 13 plots have been allotted.

(f) and (g) As per State Government of Goa, the proposed IT Habitat is expected to generate about 10,000 jobs. The jobs would be in various skills to the requirements of IT (Information Technology)/ITES (IT Enabled Services)/BPO (Business Process Outsourcing)/KPO (Knowledge Process Outsourcing) industries. In addition to these skilled jobs, there would also be unskilled jobs (indirect employment for support).

Suffering of losses by BSNL

†131. SHRIMATI MAYASINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL is suffering loss of crores of rupees due to the cutting of lines;

(b) in what way Government are going to make-up of this economic loss; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. BSNL is suffering loss due to cutting of lines (underground Optical Fiber Cable {(OFC and local copper cables)} by various agencies like PWD, National Highway Authority, Private Telecom Service Providers, Municipal Authorities, Power Utilities, Gas Companies, etc. and also due to theft of underground cables. It is not feasible to assess the exact loss on this account.

However, majority of the cuts in OFC transmission network do not result in any loss of telecom traffic and hence economic loss, because either the traffic is protected through self-healing OFC rings or through alternate paths/routes for diverting traffic.

(b) and (c) BSNL makes all out efforts to recover the compensation amount from the agencies responsible for the cuts. It is seen from the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

past experience that BSNL is able to recover the compensation amount from Private Operators but is facing a lot of problems to recover the compensation amount from Government agencies, as they are not willing to pay compensation.

Coordination is also done with various agencies likely to damage the underground cables due to digging of roads so that the incidences of cable cuts are minimized. FIRs are also lodged by BSNL for the theft of underground cables but the chances of recovery of stolen material are very remote.

Pending applications for telephone connections in Bihar

†132. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pending applications for telephone connections have gone up in the various offices of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. in the district of Madhubani in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the latest position with regard to pending applications and waiting list alongwith the time period within which the said waiting list would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. Pending waiting list for telephone connections in the various exchanges of Madhubani District in Bihar have reduced from 5363 as on 1.1.2006 to 4358 as on 31.10.2006.

(b) Latest position with regard to pending applications and waiting list is given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*). Additional equipments is being installed/procured for clearing the waiting lists. It is planned to clear the waiting list as on 30.9.2006 by 30.6.2007.

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